

August 15, 2016

### VIA HAND-DELIVERY

Mr. Darrell Nitschke **Executive Secretary** North Dakota Public Service Commission 600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408 Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



Re:

Dakota Access, LLC Case No. PU-14-842

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for filing in the above entitled matter, please find eleven (11) copies (we do not have the original) of the following documents:

- Human Remains Call, Morton County Cannonball Ranch Locality; and 0
- Certificate of Service 0

Also enclosed is a CD containing the above-referenced documents in PDF format. Should you have any questions, please advise.

BENDER

LB/cm **Enclosures** 

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OFFICES:

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PU-14-842 Filed: 8/15/2016 SHPO report re human remains call, Morton County **Cannonball Ranch Locality** 



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## Human Remains Call, Morton County Cannonball Ranch Locality

On Friday afternoon, August 12, 2016, the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) was contacted by Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement and other parties that possible human remains had been reported from a location on the Cannonball Ranch property in Morton County where the Dakota Access Pipeline project (DAPL) had initiated topsoil stripping and stockpiling activities earlier in the day for a pipe lay-down staging area.

Paul Picha upon receiving this information had contacted the North Dakota Department of Health and State Medical Examiner and inquired whether the possible remains find had been reported to them, and each replied it had not.

Picha had telephone contact with the North Dakota Intertribal Reinterment Committee (NDIRC) members Dianne Desrosiers (Sisseton Wahpeton) and Tim Mentz, Sr., (Standing Rock) with those parties requesting an on-site visit, as they were in transit to the Cannonball Ranch locality. Picha also had contacted the Morton County Sheriff's Department and relayed information that the SHSND and NDIRC were travelling to the locality.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier met and escorted Paul Picha and Brooke Morgan, (SHSND), Dianne Desrosiers, Tim Mentz, Sr., and George Ironshield (NDIRC) to the ranch parcel. The DAPL staging area had been stripped with heavy equipment to a depth of about eight (8) inches below surface, with the topsoil stockpiled adjacent to it. Based on an on-site inspection by the aforementioned, the locality revealed no evidence of human remains, a burial, or other cultural remains. These negative findings were reported verbally to Sheriff Kirchmeier on early Friday evening prior to the departure of SHSND personnel Picha and Morgan.

Paul R. Picha

Chief Archaeologist

Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division

State Historical Society of North Dakota

August 13, 2016 Date

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Dakota Access, LLC
Dakota Access Pipeline Project
Siting Application

**CASE NO. PU-14-842** 

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the following document:

Human Remains Call, Morton County Cannonball Ranch Locality

was on the 15th day of August, 2016 served by placing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, properly addressed to the following:

Zachary E. Pelham Pearce & Durick 314 E. Thayer Ave. P.O. Box 400 Bismarck, ND 58502-0400

Derrick Braaten Baumstark Braaten Law Partners 109 North Fourth Street, Suite 100 Bismarck, ND 58501-4003

Matt J. Kelly Tarlow and Stonecipher, PLLC 1705 West College Street Bozeman, MT 59715

Bryan Van Grinsven McGee, Hankla & Backes 2400 E. Burdick Expy., Ste. 100 Minot, ND 58702-0998

Bryan L. Giese Attorney at Law 107 First Ave. NW Mandan, ND 58554-3150 Brian Bjella Blaine Johnson Crowley Fleck, PLLP 100 West Broadway, Suite 250 Bismarck, ND 58501

Eleven (11) copies of the foregoing document were also hand delivered to the North Dakota Public Service Commission on said date.

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LAWRENCE BENDER, ND Bar #03908 DANIELLE M. KRAUSE, ND Bar #06874

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